



FEMA

MINUTES OF THE FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (FICEMS)

DATE & TIME:	December 3, 2004 10:30 a.m.
LOCATION:	National Technical Information Service (NTIS) Room 2029 5285 Port Royal Road Springfield, VA 22151
MEMBER AGENCY REPRESENTATION:	Department of Homeland Security <i>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)</i> Mr. John Brasko, Acting Chairman United States Fire Administration
	Department of Agriculture No Representation
	Department of Commerce (DOC) Jeannette Young Reese National Technical Information Service (NTIS) Wayne Strickland National Technical Information Service (NTIS)
	Department of Defense (DOD) No Representation
	Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Ms. Nancy Romano, AS Subcommittee Chair National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Mr. Paul Moore National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

	<p>Ms. Blanca Fuertes HRSA, Federal Office of Rural Health Policy</p> <p>Mr. Terry Mullins* HRSA – Trauma EMS Technical Assistance Center</p>
	<p>Department of Interior No Representation</p>
	<p>Department of Justice (DOJ) No Representation</p>
	<p>Department of Labor No Representation</p>
	<p>Department of Transportation (DOT) Mr. Dave Bryson National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)</p> <p>Mr. Drew Dawson National Highway Traffic Safety Administration</p> <p>Ms. Susan McHenry National Highway Traffic Safety Administration</p> <p>Ms. Carol Ferro National Highway Traffic Safety Administration</p>
	<p>Department of Veteran Affairs No Representation</p>
	<p>Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) No Representation</p>
	<p>Federal Communications Commission No Representation</p>
	<p>General Services Administration (GSA) Mr. John McDonald</p>

OTHER ATTENDEES PRIVATE SECTOR:	American Ambulance Association Mr. Kurt Krumperman
	American Integrated Training Systems Mr. Billy Rutherford
	American Society Testing & Materials (ASTM) Mr. Pete Chambers
	Council of Governments Ms. Christine Woodard
	International Safety Equipment Association Mr. Dan Glucksman*
	Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System Ms. Rene Fechter
	National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Mr. Jerry Ross*
	National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) Mr. Joe Robison
	Safety Tech International, Inc Mr. Dennis Ottey

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS/HANDOUTS

Mr. John Brasko, Acting Chairman, welcomed the group and turned the welcome over to Ms. Janice Coe from NTIS. Ms. Coe thanked FICEMS for allowing them to host the meeting and encouraged return future opportunities for NTIS and FICEMS. Mr. Brasko thanked NTIS for their hospitality and for hosting this meeting. Mr. Brasko reminded the group that FICEMS is an information sharing body/committee. He noted that the rest of the USFA group could not attend today and expressed apologies.

Handouts:

- NHTSA Fall 2004 Safety Programs – NHTSA, Drew Dawson
- USFA Press Release

II. REVIEW OF PAST MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Brasko mentioned the review of the September 2004 meeting minutes. A motion was made to approve them. Motion was passed and the FICEMS minutes from the September 2004 meeting were approved as published.

III. OLD BUSINESS

All ongoing action items from previous minutes have been reviewed and are complete. Two ongoing action items to share are:

- The Ambulance Safety Subcommittee will meet at 1:00 pm in lieu of the Counter-Terrorism Subcommittee.
- The FICEMS committee voted today on disbanding the Counter-Terrorism Subcommittee based on the lack of attendance and not having the right players at the table. The vote was unanimous. Mr. Kurt Krumperman, AAA, noted that the players are meeting about these important issues but that maybe this was not the right forum for these individuals. Mr. Chambers, ASTM, stated that there was another group meeting on Federal EMS issues. Mr. Brasko noted that he would follow up with Mr. Chambers on this issue. **(AI)**

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Ambulance Safety

Ms. Nancy Romano, Chairman – AS Subcommittee - NIOSH, thanked the committee for moving the subcommittee time slot to the afternoon. Ms. Romano reported that the September Ambulance Safety Subcommittee covered a lot of information. Mr. Rick Patrick, VFIS, presented on Operation Safe Arrival and Mr. Jeff Lindsay was available for Q&A relating to Simulation Effects/Benefits.

Ms. Romano reported that the subcommittee will meet this afternoon following the lunch break and that a list of related conferences will be handed out in this afternoon's meeting.

V. MEMBER AGENCY REPORTS

NTIS: Ms. Betty Lagundo

- Ms. Lagundo provided a brief presentation on NTIS: An Introduction to Atlas Pro and ACSEL. A copy of the presentation can be found at the conclusion of the minutes.

NHTSA: Mr. Drew Dawson/Dave Bryson/Carol Ferro/Susan McHenry

- Mr. Dawson distributed their liaison report, this report includes information about NHTSA's various activities and he turned it over to Dave Bryson to discuss the Ambulance Safety National Meeting.
- Mr. Dave Bryson, NHTSA, reported that they are working on the scope and agenda for the national meeting. They have a special meeting with International Association

of Fire Chiefs tomorrow. They are planning to continue discussions and consider feedback. Mr. Bryson will report in more detail in the Ambulance Safety Subcommittee this afternoon.

- Mr. Drew Dawson, NHTSA, noted that they are waiting on the omnibus bill and they are hoping it passes.
- Mr. Dawson noted that the Intelligent Transportation funding for NEXGEN RFI will be in the Federal Business Ops for input direction. The Implementation of Wireless Enhanced 9-1-1 project would allow DOT to look at other IP based solutions vs. just the telephone.
- NYU is sponsoring a meeting on December 8th, this is not a federal meeting, that will have various roundtables relating to EMS and Bio-terrorism. They will provide a report with recommendations.
- Ms. Susan McHenry reported on NEMSIS. The full data set is complete with XLM standards, dictionary, and pilot project is underway (States providing data to national database). The final decision on the location of NEMSIS is still being evaluated. They are excited and hopeful that they will begin seeing good data. They expect it will take several years to be fully populated. The State EMS directors have an MOU in place that declares their commitment to implement NEMSIS. Currently there are 51 states/territories that have signed the MOU to convert systems to make them NEMSIS compliant.
- Mr. Dawson also noted the Institute of Medicine study is progressing very well.

For more specific information on ongoing NHTSA projects, please see the attached handout NHTSA Fall 2004.

NIOSH: Mr. Paul Moore

- Mr. Moore reported that NIOSH is continuing to look at ambulance crash safety and various restraint systems. They are almost at the end of Phase I, expect more presentations in 2005 and will then publish the results. Phase II relates to the Human Factor in Patient Compartments. They will be using people in this test phase, to assess the safety factors in relation to job performance. They plan to separate fact from myth. The estimated timeline is to begin in 4th qtr. FY 2005 and finish in 2007.
- Mr. Billy Rutherford, ATIS, would like to share information to help NIOSH look at the driver compartment as it's just as dangerous and equally responsible for crashes.

HRSA – Ms. Blanca Fuertes

- Ms. Fuertes reported that their funding had been cut but then restored by Congress. The restored funding was still lower than anticipated. Several programs will remain but with modified funding and effort:
 - The AED recall is based on the manufacturer not supporting their units. Some states are affected more than others based on specific units.
 - Cycle 3 is well on its way. They have maintained grantees but with no new competition.
 - Outreach Grant Program will promote on community based program through sharing 40% award towards equipment (EMS qualifies).

- Flex Program has an EMS component. A variety of hospitals are closing and some are being converted to Critical access hospitals. Today they have over 1000 conversions.

GSA: Mr. John McDonald

- Mr. McDonald reported that the 05 ambulances are available for purchase for the Federal agencies. If anyone has any questions, please contact him offline.

HRSA-EMS Trauma Assistance Center: Mr. Terry Mullins

- Mr. Mullins reported a on the HRSA Trauma Systems Program. There is a 3-day conference, regional meeting with trauma management group. This is a great opportunity to work with EMS providers.
- On November 18th, 2004, the Stakeholders had a 1 ½ day conference.
- The letters for the Annual Grand T meeting have been sent out.
- Mr. Mullins on behalf of Cheryl Anderson offered to host/co-host the March 2005 FICEMS meetings. Ms. Blanca Fuertes offered to co-host and utilize the Parklawn Bldg. in Rockville, MD.

DOC/NTIS: Mr. Wayne Strickland/Jeanette Young-Reese

- Mr. Strickland expressed his thanks for allowing NTIS the opportunity to host this quarters FICEMS meeting.

USFA: Mr. John Brasko

- Mr. Brasko reported on the Online Mass Casualty Program and distributed an official Press Release, see attached for more information.

VI. REPORTS – OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM): Mr. Pete Chambers

Mr. Chambers reported that ASTM meets with an EMS Group at their March meeting in Philadelphia. They have also formed a new committee relating to the Orthopedic group. They have new standards for pelvic stabilization with performance specifications. The next area is related to back boards and neck collars. They are looking to put science behind them.

ASTM also has an Aircraft Group which is in Phase II. This phase is looking for input from industry, government and now specifically commercial aircraft partners. They want to involve GSA so they can harmonize the standards.

Also Mr. Chambers is now the Member Chair for AMSUS. If anyone is interested with addressing issues with the medical industry, he is opening the floor and will schedule you on this committee's calendar.

VII. ACTION ITEMS REVIEW

No further review of existing action items, all have been completed for December or are considered closed items.

Review of Action Items from this meeting:

- Mr. Brasko noted that he would follow-up with Mr. Chambers on what he knew regarding a new Federal EMS effort. **(AI)**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Terry Mullins/Ms. Cheryl Anderson/Ms. Blanca Fuertes have offered to co-host the March 2005 FICEMS meetings and will work with NATEK off-line to discuss logistics.

IX. SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS FOLLOWING THIS MEETING

Ambulance Safety Subcommittee meets at 1:00

X. NEXT MEETING

March 3, 2005, 10:30 a.m.

Proposed Location:

Department of Health and Human Services – HRSA
Parklawn Bldg.
Rockville, MD

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**** Please see the following pages for the handouts provided in this meeting.**